

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:450
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2003
TELECAST OF REGIONAL NEWS ON DOORDARSHAN
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are considering to provide uplinking facilities for foreign channels;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Doordarshan is planning to enhance regional news telecast on Doordarshan; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) and (b):As per existing uplinking policy, all TV channels, irrespective of their ownership (including equity structure) or management control aimed at Indian viewership, are permitted to uplink from India, subject to fulfillment of eligibility criteria and adherence to various terms and conditions including, inter-alia, adherence to programme and advertisement codes.

(c) and (d):Increasing the coverage of Regional News bulletins of Doordarshan, is a continuous process. Recently, three regional language bulletins (Malayalam, Gujarati & Tamil) have been introduced in DD India. In all, DD is producing 61 bulletins in 16 languages from 20 RNUs all over the country. Three Regional News Units at HISSAR, RANCHI AND RAIPUR were started in 2002.